



## **Press Release - Michigan's 1st alternative energy fueling facility to be built in Ottawa Co brownfield**

Ottawa County, Michigan sent this bulletin at 07/30/2015 12:30 PM EDT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 30, 2015

Contact: [Becky Huttenga](#), (616) 738-4893

*Suggested Post: MI's 1st alternative energy fueling station to be built on @miOttawa brownfield*

### **Ottawa County Approves Brownfield Plan to Construct Michigan's First Alternative Energy Fueling Facility**

Borculo Fuel Services, LLC, an affiliate of locally owned and operated Zeeland Farm Services, Inc. doing business as "Anew," received approval from the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners at its July 28 meeting to use tax increment financing to help construct an alternative energy fueling station in Blendon Township. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is an economic development tool that allows a developer to be reimbursed for eligible costs related to clean-up and site preparation activities needed at a site before construction begins. The long-vacant property at the southeast corner of 96th Avenue and Port Sheldon Road is a "brownfield site," which means there is a presence or threat of contamination on the property. The site is home to a former gas station and several previous industrial uses. The Blendon Township Board of Trustees approved a resolution in support of the redevelopment project at its July 16 meeting.

"Ottawa County and Blendon Township are excited that Anew has selected this site to construct its first alternative energy fueling station in Michigan" said David C. Miller, chair of the Ottawa County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. "It is very likely that this property would have remained vacant and contaminated for many more years if Anew had not stepped in to clean up and redevelop the site."

The County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority has approved \$31,000 in EPA grant funds since December 2014 to conduct environmental site assessments on the property to verify the extent of environmental contamination and required remediation work.

Anew plans to invest more than \$2.4 million to remove contaminated soil and groundwater from the property, along with the construction of the alternative energy fueling station and a 3,070-square-foot convenience store. The recently approved TIF for the project will allow Anew to be reimbursed \$318,354 in eligible site remediation activity costs. The reimbursement dollars will be captured from the increase in taxable value of the property as a result of Anew's redevelopment of the site.

The Anew fuel station will offer customers four types of ethanol-blended fuel options, including regular E-10 gasoline, E-15 approved for vehicles built in 2001 or newer and E-30 and E-85 for flex fuel vehicles. There are

many benefits to ethanol-blended fuel, including a more than 40 percent reduction in tailpipe emissions, increased octane, lower cost, and the fact that the fuel came from feedstock grown and processed in West Michigan providing Michigan jobs.

The alternative energy fueling station will be the first facility of its kind in Michigan. When the project is complete, it will create two full-time and 10 part-time jobs.

Beth Westemeyer, Vice President of Operations for Anew, said “Ottawa County is where we wanted to invest in our flagship facility, selling fuel made from grain grown and processed in West Michigan while reducing vehicle air emissions.”

Anew hopes to construct additional alternative energy fueling stations over the next several years.



- [Rendering of Borculo Anew Fueling Station.jpg](#)